December 5, 2012

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Detroit Legal News: Adoption Option

"The Third Judicial Circuit Court honored 20 families and celebrated nearly 600 adoptions during the 10th annual Michigan Adoption Day on Nov. 20. The 'Giving Thanks for Families' event recognized the hard work and dedication of agencies, court personnel and community partners that help make adoptions happen."

Full story

Midland Daily News: Home News .Camp promotes importance of adoption; Camp promoted importance of adoption in November

"Congressman Dave Camp (R-Midland) joined with members of Congress and the president to raise awareness about the importance of adoption during National Adoption Month in November. Camp participated in Voice for Adoption's Adoptive Family Portrait Project. The theme of the Portrait Project this year was Family Matters: Featuring Foster Care Adoption and Kinship Connections. The project highlighted a variety of families that provide loving and stable homes for children in need."

Full story

The Detroit News: Schuette wants fast ruling on EFM law

"Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette is asking the Michigan Supreme Court to immediately rule on a case that seeks to resolve whether Michigan has an emergency financial manager law in place. Schuette filed a two-page request with the high court Tuesday, saying there are multiple court hearings over the next month that will be affected by any opinion or order of the Michigan Supreme Court in the case filed by Detroit union activist Robert Davis."

Full story

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Detroit schools emergency manager seeks quick decision on suit seeking his removal

Full story

Flint Journal: Flint emergency financial manager Ed Kurtz says he 'may be out of a job' after hearing today

Full story

The Detroit News: Court hears case of aborted release of inmate (fifth article)

"The Michigan Court of Appeals heard arguments Tuesday in a case involving the aborted release of an inmate convicted in the 1988 slaying of a Wayne County man. In December 2010, Gov. Jennifer Granholm agreed to commute the life sentence of Matthew Makowski. Granholm changed her mind less than 48 hours later, after the family of victim Pietro 'Pete' Puma protested."

Full story

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Inmate: Overturn Granholm decision (fifth article)

Full story

The Times Herald/Port Huron: Inmate wants court to overturn Granholm decision

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Kilpatrick ordered to appear in court next week, likely for missing \$500 restitution payment

"Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, currently on trial in U.S. District Court, has been ordered to appear in Wayne County Circuit Court for a status conference next week. The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office confirmed this morning that Kilpatrick will be in Judge David Groner's courtroom Dec. 12. The reason for the conference wasn't disclosed, but the Free Press reported Tuesday that Kilpatrick missed his November restitution payment of \$500."

Full story

Also see:

The Detroit News: Kwame Kilpatrick due in court next week after missing restitution payment

Full story

WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit: Kwame Kilpatrick ordered back to Circuit Court Full story

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Kilpatrick ordered back to court over missed restitution *Full story*

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Judge orders Kwame Kilpatrick back to court in connection to restitution

Full story

The Detroit News: Ruling a setback for Worthy's budget hopes

"In a setback for Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy, [Wayne County Circuit Judge Wendy Baxter] on Tuesday lifted a budgetary restraining order that kept her office funded at a previous higher rate than officials approved for the fiscal year."

Full story

Also see:

The Detroit News: Rebuttal: Preserve right of county officials to sue over budget

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Judge lifts order; Worthy to face cuts (second article) *Full story*

Flint-Genesee County Legal News: Given His Due; Federal judge feted at official unveiling

"... [A]s a Genesee County Circuit Court judge, [Stewart Newblatt] wrote opinions that were lauded by the state Court of Appeals. After another successful stint as an attorney in private practice, Newblatt cemented his reputation as a learned litigator. And finally, after being named a U.S. District Court judge, Newblatt topped off a career in law that reached levels of excellence only a few could dream of." Full story

Grand Rapids Legal News: Judge pens a sequel to his book forensic science challenges

"Admittedly, Donald Shelton says his latest book was not written with The New York Times best-seller list in mind. Chief Judge of the Washtenaw County Trial Court, Shelton had a different audience in view when he set out to write 'Forensic Science Evidence: Can the Law Keep Up with Science?' "
Full story

Hometown Life Newspapers: Wayne County judge shifts residency, owes property taxes in Birmingham

"Before Dana Hathaway takes the bench on the Wayne County Circuit Court, she might want to get her house in order. Two homes, actually. Hathaway owes Birmingham Schools approximately \$6,500 in additional taxes, plus penalties and interest to Oakland County and the city of Birmingham after she rescinded a house at 174 Catalpa as her principal residence for the past three years."

Full story

HOM-TV/Okemos: Domestic Violence Exhibit

"... Domestic violence is a problem here in Michigan. There were over 100 thousand victims in the state in 2011.... But the Domestic Violence Exhibit at the Hall of Justice in Lansing is looking to break that cycle. What they can expect in this exhibit is to learn more about domestic violence. One of the best parts of this exhibit too is that you can look, the students can look and see what kind of partner they want, what kind of qualities they want in a partner,' said [Michigan Court of Appeals Judge Amy] Ronayne-Krause." Full story

Lansing State Journal: Jury awards man \$1.6 million in lawsuit against Lansing Township

"A man who sued the Lansing Township Police Department after he suffered a severe head injury in a crash with a township police cruiser has been awarded \$1.6 million by a jury, his attorney said.... A verdict was reached [Tuesday] in Ingham County Circuit Court before Judge William Collette after a five-day trial."

Full story

** The article is available by subscription only.

MLive.com: Retiring East Lansing District Judge David Jordon honored by city officials for long, fulfilling career

"It's been a long road for East Lansing District Judge David Jordon, but as he prepares to retire from his post, he had few regrets.... Jordon, an East Lansing staple since 1990, will officially retire from his position Dec. 31. Newly-elected Andrea Larkin will take his place in the seat."

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: Ecorse settles lawsuit over convictions for \$3.1M

"A Detroit suburb has agreed to pay more than \$3 million to two men who were convicted of attempted murder but released from prison when the victim recanted his testimony. Marvin Reed and nephew DeShawn Reed were the first people whose convictions were overturned due to the work of law students at the University of Michigan."

Full story

Saginaw News: Picketing, jail and lawsuits: Saginaw church faces turmoil over evicted members

"... The group filed a civil lawsuit in Saginaw County Circuit Court demanding more than \$100,000 in tithes back. All of Saginaw County's circuit judges recused themselves, and the case was referred to a Bay County judge. After that lawsuit was thrown out by Bay County Circuit Judge Kenneth W. Schmidt, the group decided to file a second lawsuit naming the pastor as the defendant."

Full story

The Times Herald/Port Huron: Group protests compassion center case; Six defendants charged Tuesday

"A crowd of medical marijuana advocates protested Tuesday in front of the St. Clair County courthouse to show support for six people facing charges connected to an investigation of the Blue Water Compassion Centers in St. Clair, Sanilac and Tuscola counties."

Full story